

CLAIMS

1. An electronic thermostat for a liquid heating apparatus having a container in which liquid is contained and a heater that is operable by electrical power to heat the liquid, the electronic thermostat comprising:

a mechanical switch through which electrical power is applied to the heater to increase a temperature of the liquid from an initial temperature toward a target temperature, and

a solid-state switch through which electrical power is applied to the heater to maintain the temperature of the liquid at substantially the target temperature.

2. A method of heating a liquid, the method comprising:
operating a mechanical switch to apply power to a heater to heat the liquid from an initial temperature toward a target temperature, and
operating a solid-state switch to apply power to the heater to maintain the liquid substantially at the target temperature.

3. In a beverage brewing apparatus, an electronic thermostat for a liquid heating apparatus having a container in which liquid is contained and a heater that is operable by electrical power to heat the liquid, the electronic thermostat comprising:

a mechanical switch through which electrical power is applied to the heater to increase a temperature of the liquid from an initial temperature toward a target temperature, and

a solid-state switch through which electrical power is applied to the heater to maintain the temperature of the liquid at substantially the target temperature.

4. A method of heating a liquid for use in a beverage brewing apparatus, the method comprising:

operating a mechanical switch to apply power to a heater to heat the liquid from an initial temperature toward a target temperature, and

operating a solid-state switch to apply power to the heater to maintain the liquid substantially at the target temperature.

5 5. An electronic thermostat kit for use in combination with a liquid heating apparatus having a container in which liquid is contained and a heater that is operable by electrical power to heat the liquid, the electronic thermostat kit comprising:

 a mechanical switch through which electrical power is applied to the heater to increase a temperature of the liquid from an initial temperature toward a
10 target temperature, and

 a solid-state switch through which electrical power is applied to the heater to maintain the temperature of the liquid at substantially the target temperature.

 6. An electronic thermostat for a liquid temperature modifying
15 apparatus having a container in which liquid is contained and a temperature modifier that is operable by electrical power to at least one of heat or cool the liquid, the electronic thermostat comprising:

 a mechanical switch through which electrical power is applied to the temperature modifier to change a temperature of the liquid from an initial temperature
20 toward a target temperature, and

 a solid-state switch through which electrical power is applied to the temperature modifier to maintain the temperature of the liquid at substantially the target temperature.

25 7. A method of modifying the temperature a liquid, the method comprising:

 operating a mechanical switch to apply power to a temperature modifier to change the temperature of a liquid from an initial temperature toward a target temperature, and

30 operating a solid-state switch to apply power to the temperature modifier to maintain the liquid substantially at the target temperature.